

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 147559

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APPROVED BY:ACTING SECRETARY (BY EDDJEREJIAN)

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S/S- MR LUERS

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TO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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S E C R E T STATE 147559

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: DA, EEC, PFOR, XF

SUBJECT: DANISH AMBASSADOR CALLS ON ACTING SECRETARY

1. SUMMARY. DANISH AMBASSADOR CALLED JULY 1 ON ACTING SECRETARY SISCO FOR GENERAL REVIEW OF MIDDLE EAST SITUATION AND ATLANTIC RELATIONS. SISCO POINTED OUT SIGNIFICANCE OF SYRIAN-ISRAELI AGREEMENT ON GOLAN; DISQUIETING EFFECT OF PALESTINIAN RAIDS ACROSS LEBANESE BORDER; AND DIFFICULT POSITION OF RABIN GOVERNMENT IN ISRAEL WITH ITS ONE SEAT MAJORITY. NEXT TWO MONTHS WOULD BE PREPARATORY PERIOD DURING WHICH TIME ARABS WOULD CONSULT AMONG THEMSELVES AND THEN BILATERALLY WITH THE US. WE WOULD ALSO BE CONSULTING WITH ISRAELIS. THE END RESULT OF THIS SHOULD BE THE RECONVENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE IN THE FALL.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 147559

BARTELS AGREED WITH SISCO THAT UPCOMING EC-ARAB DIALOGUE

POSED POTENTIAL PROBLEMS AND COULD NOT DEAL WITH OIL PRICE SITUATION SINCE IRAN WAS NOT INVOLVED. BARTELS SHOWED CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE UK WITHDRAWAL FROM EC, POINTING OUT THAT NEITHER FRENCH NOR GERMANS APPEARED TO APPRECIATE EFFECT UK WITHDRAWAL WOULD POSE TO EUROPEAN UNITY AND EVENTUALLY TO ATLANTIC COOPERATION. END SUMMARY.

2. DANISH AMBASSADOR BARTELS CALLED AT HIS REQUEST ON ACTING SECRETARY SISCO JULY 1 FOR GENERAL DISCUSSION OF MIDDLE EAST SITUATION AND ATLANTIC RELATIONS. BARTELS

SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD STUDIED THE RELEVANT DOCUMENTS ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND REPORTS FROM DANISH EMBASSIES IN THE FIELD AND THE BIG QUESTION NOW WAS "WHAT NEXT?"

3. SISCO SAID THAT THE NEXT TWO MONTHS WOULD CONSTITUTE A PREPARATORY PERIOD. THE ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER WOULD BE COMING TO THE US IN JULY; THE JORDANIAN AND THE EGYPTIAN REPS WOULD LIKELY FOLLOW. THERE WOULD BE, SISCO EXPLAINED, TWO SETS OF CONSULTATIONS: THE FIRST AMONG THE ARAB STATES REGARDING THE QUESTION OF THE PALESTINIANS. THE SECOND WOULD BE A SERIES OF BILATERAL TALKS BETWEEN THE US AND THE ARAB LEADERS. THE END RESULT WE ARE LOOKING TOWARD IS THE RECONVENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE SOMETIME THIS FALL.

4. SISCO SAID ONE DISQUIETING POINT IN THE MIDDLE EAST PICTURE IS THE LEBANESE FRONTIER. INCIDENTS THERE COULD HAVE AN INJURIOUS IMPACT ON FUTURE PROGRESS. BUT NOW THE SITUATION WAS ALSO DELICATE IN ISRAEL SINCE THE RABIN GOVERNMENT OPERATES WITH ONLY A ONE SEAT MAJORITY. THUS, IF RABIN FAILS TO ACT STRONGLY AGAINST PALESTINIAN GUERRILLAS, THE OPPOSITION LIKUD COULD EXPLOIT SITUATION. WITHOUT MAKING A VALUE JUDGMENT, SAID SISCO, WE BELIEVE IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR LEBANON TO DO MORE. WE HAD OBVIOUSLY COUNSELED RESTRAINT ON BOTH SIDES.

5. BARTELS SAID THAT ALTHOUGH HIS FOREIGN MINISTER
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 147559

WAS SOMEWHAT OPTIMISTIC REGARDING THE UPCOMING EC-ARAB DIALOGUE IT APPEARED TO BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR THE ARABS TO ARRIVE AT COMMON POSITIONS. BARTELS SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE THE ARABS WOULD BE IMPRESSED BY WHAT THE EUROPEANS ARE NOW READY TO OFFER. REGARDING THE EC-ARAB DIALOGUE, SISCO SAID THE US HAD NO OBJECTION. WE TRUST, HOWEVER, THAT THE EUROPEANS WILL BE CAREFUL NOT TO LET THE ARABS GANG-UP ON THEM, PARTICULARLY

THOSE HOLDING MORE RADICAL VIEWS. HAVING RESOLVED, WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE NATO DECLARATION, THE QUESTION OF CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES, SISCO OPINED WE NOW HAVE A GREATER MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE LIMITS AND SORE POINTS OF SUCH CONSULTATIONS. ANOTHER RELATED FACTOR, SISCO SAID, WAS THE PRICE OF OIL. WE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED A PRICE LOWER THAN THE \$11.65 THAT OPEC AGREED TO IN CARACAS, BUT THE SAUDI SHOULD NOT GO ABOVE 93PERCENT OF THE POSTED PRICE. WE BELIEVE,

SISCO EXPLAINED, THAT GOVERNMENTS SHOULD TALK TO THEIR OIL COMPANIES TO ENSURE THAT THEIR ACTIONS ARE COMPLEMENTARY AND MUTUALLY SUPPORTING.

6. BARTELS SAID OIL PRICES WERE A SERIOUS PROBLEM NOT ONLY FOR ITALY AND THE LDC'S BUT ALSO FOR DENMARK WHICH WAS COMPLETELY DEPENDENT ON MID EAST OIL. HE REALIZED, HE SAID, THE IMPORTANCE IRAN AND OTHERS PLACE ON HIGH PRICES AND THOUGHT THAT UNLESS THE SAUDIS INCREASE PRODUCTION, PRICES WOULD NOT DROP. THE NEXT OPEC MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MID-SEPTEMBER WILL CERTAINLY FOCUS PRESSURE TO RAISE PRICES. THE LESSON FOR US HERE, SAID SISCO, IS THE IMPORTANCE OF CONCERTED COOPERATIVE EFFORTS TO DEAL WITH THE PRICE PROBLEM. BARTELS SAID THAT HE AGREED, BUT IRAN, A NON-ARAB STATE, WAS THE KEY TO THE PRICE PROBLEM. HE WAS THEREFORE SOMEWHAT SKEPTICAL OF THE EC-ARAB DIALOGUE SINCE IT COULD NOT TACKLE THE PRICE PROBLEM WITHOUT IRAN.

7. BARTELS RAISED FAMILIAR CONCERNS ABOUT THE COURSE OF EUROPEAN UNITY, PARTICULARLY THE POSSIBILITY OF UK WITHDRAWAL FROM THE EC. THE GERMANS AND THE FRENCH
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 147559

ARE TOO RELAXED, BARTELS THOUGHT, SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY HAVE LITTLE TRADE WITH THE UK. SISCO SAID IT IS WHOLLY CONSISTENT FOR THE UK TO PLAY A ROLE IN EUROPE WITHIN THE LARGER CONTEXT OF ATLANTIC COOPERATION. WE HAVE NOT PRESSED THE BRITISH, HOWEVER, PREFERRING TO LEAVE THE MATTER LARGELY TO THEM.

8. NOTE: PRIOR TO THIS MEETING, BARTELS AND ACTING SECRETARY EXCHANGED INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION OF NEW US-DANISH EXTRADITION TREATY. ACTING SECRETARY PAID TRIBUTE TO EXCELLENT RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND DENMARK AND HIS GREAT ADMIRATION AND RESPECT FOR AMBASSADOR BARTELS. BARTELS REPLIED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD GREAT CONFIDENCE IN WAY USG CONDUCTED ITS MAJOR AFFAIRS AND BELIEVED THAT WE SHARE NOT ONLY FRIENDSHIP AND

GOOD RELATIONS BUT A COMMON DESTINY. SISCO

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